

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-15 as follows:

1. (Original) A stretched-formed multilayer container formed by stretching a multilayer sheet or a multilayer preform from 1.1 to 100 times its area draw ratio, said multilayer sheet or said multilayer preform comprising a layer (a) made of a thermoplastic resin (A) and at least one layer unit of a (bc)/(de) layer unit or a (de)/(bc) layer unit which is arranged on at least one surface of layer (a) with or without an adhesive backing, said (bc)/(de) layer unit or said (de)/(bc) layer unit consisting of a layer (bc) made of a mixture of a polycarboxylic acid-based polymer (B) and a plasticiser (C) and a layer (de) made of a mixture of a bivalent metal compound (D) and a resin (E), said layer (bc) and said layer (de) being adjacent to each other, and , said multilayer sheet or said multilayer preform containing a bivalent metal compound (D) so that the chemical equivalent of a bivalent metal in the total amount (Dt) of the bivalent metal compound (D) is 0.2 or more relative to the total amount (Bt) of carboxyl groups contained in the layers (bc) and (de).
2. (Cancelled per Article 34.)
3. (Original) The stretched-formed multilayer container according to claim 1, containing at least one a (de)/(bc)/(de) layer unit, which has the layer (bc) and the layer (de) adjacent to each other.
4. (Cancelled per Article 34.)
5. (Cancelled per Article 34.)

6. (Currently amended) The stretched-formed multilayer container according to ~~one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1,
wherein the mixing ratio between the polycarboxylic acid-based polymer (B) and the plasticiser (C) is 70/30 to 99.9/0.1 (mass ratio).

7. (Currently amended) The stretched-formed multilayer container according to ~~one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1,
wherein the polycarboxylic acid-based polymer (B) has an oxygen permeability coefficient of 1000cm^3 (STP) · $\mu\text{m}/(\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{day} \cdot \text{Mpa})$ or less at 30°C and relative humidity of 0% when formed into a film by itself.

8. (Currently amended) The stretched-formed multilayer container according to ~~one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1,
wherein the polycarboxylic acid-based polymer (B) is a homopolymer, a copolymer and/or a mixture thereof, the homopolymer and the copolymer consisting of at least one of polymerizable monomer units selected from acrylic acid, maleic acid and methacrylic acid.

9. (Cancelled per Article 34.)

10. (Currently amended) The stretched-formed multilayer container according to ~~one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, which is used for boiling or retort sterilization.

11. (Currently amended) A multilayer preform used for the stretched-formed multilayer container according to ~~one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1.

12. (Currently amended) A multilayer sheet used for the stretched-formed multilayer container according to ~~one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1.

13. (Original) A production method of a stretch-formed multilayer container,

wherein a multilayer sheet or a multilayer preform obtained by forming at least one a (bc)/(de) layer unit or a (de)/(bc) layer unit on a layer (a) made of a thermoplastic resin (A) by a coating method is stretched from 1.1 to 100 times its area draw ratio, said (bc)/(de) layer unit or said (de)/(bc) layer unit consisting of a layer (bc) made of a mixture of a polycarboxylic acid-based polymer (B) and a plasticiser (C) and a layer (de) made of a mixture of a multivalent metal compound (D) and a resin (E), said layer (bc) and said layer (de) adjacent to each other.

14. (Cancelled per Article 34.)
15. (Original) The production method according to claim 13, wherein at least one a (de)/(bc)/(de) layer unit, which has the layer (bc) and the layer (de) adjacent to each other, is provided.
16. (Currently amended) The production method according to ~~one of claims 13 to 15~~ claim 13, wherein in all of the layer (bc) and the layer (de), the chemical equivalent of the multivalent metal in the total amount (Dt) of the multivalent metal compound (D) is 0.2 or more relative to the total amount (Bt) of carboxyl groups contained in the layer (bc) and the layer (de).
17. (Currently amended) The production method according to ~~one of claims 13 to 16~~ claim 13, wherein the mixing ratio between the polycarboxylic acid-based polymer (B) and the plasticiser (C) is 70/30 to 99.9/0.1 (mass ratio).
18. (Currently amended) The production method according to ~~one of claims 13 to 17~~ claim 13, wherein the polycarboxylic acid-based polymer (B) has an oxygen

permeability coefficient of 1000cm^3 (STP) $\cdot \mu\text{m}/(\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{day} \cdot \text{Mpa})$ or less at 30°C and relative humidity of 0% when formed into a film by itself.

19. (Currently amended) The production method according to ~~one of claims 13 to 18~~ claim 13, wherein the polycarboxylic acid-based polymer (B) is a homopolymer, a copolymer and/or a mixture thereof, the homopolymer and the copolymer consisting of at least one of polymerizable monomer units selected from acrylic acid, maleic acid and methacrylic acid.

20. (Currently amended) The production method according to ~~one of claims 13 to 19~~ claim 13, wherein the multivalent metal compound (D) is a bivalent metal compound.